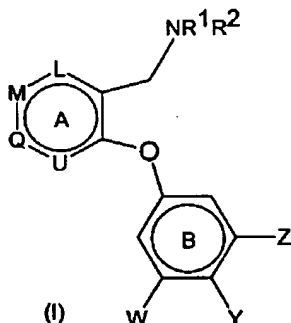


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IN THE CLAIMS

1. (Currently amended) A compound of general formula (I), or pharmaceutically acceptable salts, solvates or polymorphs thereof;



wherein;

L and U, which may be the same or different, are -N-, -N<sup>+</sup>(-O<sup>-</sup>)- or -C(H)-;

M and Q, which may be the same or different, are -N-, -N<sup>+</sup>(-O<sup>-</sup>)- or -C(R<sup>4</sup>)-;

wherein ring A contains 1 nitrogen atom;

R<sup>1</sup> and R<sup>2</sup>, which may be the same or different, are hydrogen, C<sub>1-6</sub>alkyl, (CH<sub>2</sub>)<sub>m</sub>(C<sub>3-6</sub>cycloalkyl) wherein m = 0, 1, 2 or 3, or R<sup>1</sup> and R<sup>2</sup> together with the nitrogen to which they are attached form an azetidine ring;

W, Y and Z, which may be the same or different, are hydrogen, halogen, C<sub>1-6</sub>alkyl, CF<sub>3</sub>, OCF<sub>3</sub>, C<sub>1-4</sub>alkylthio or C<sub>1-4</sub>alkoxy; or Y and Z are linked so that, together with the interconnecting atoms, Y and Z form a fused 5 to 7-membered carbocyclic or heterocyclic ring which may be saturated, unsaturated or aromatic, and wherein when Y and Z form a heterocyclic ring, in addition to carbon atoms, the linkage contains one or two heteroatoms independently selected from oxygen, sulfur and nitrogen; and wherein W, Y and Z are not all hydrogen; and

each R<sup>4</sup> is independently:

A-X, wherein A = -(CH<sub>2</sub>)<sub>p</sub>- where p is 0, 1 or 2; X is hydrogen, CONR<sup>8</sup>R<sup>7</sup>, SO<sub>2</sub>NR<sup>8</sup>R<sup>7</sup>, SO<sub>2</sub>NHC(=O)R<sup>8</sup>, hydroxy, C<sub>1-4</sub>alkoxy, NR<sup>8</sup>SO<sub>2</sub>R<sup>9</sup>, NO<sub>2</sub>, NR<sup>8</sup>R<sup>11</sup>, CN, CO<sub>2</sub>R<sup>10</sup>, SR<sup>10</sup>, S(O)R<sup>9</sup> or SO<sub>2</sub>R<sup>10</sup>; R<sup>6</sup>, R<sup>7</sup>, R<sup>8</sup> and R<sup>10</sup> which may be the same or different, are hydrogen or C<sub>1-6</sub>alkyl optionally substituted independently by one or more R<sup>12</sup>; R<sup>9</sup> is C<sub>1-6</sub>alkyl optionally substituted independently by one or more R<sup>12</sup>; R<sup>11</sup> is hydrogen, C<sub>1-6</sub>alkyl

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optionally substituted independently by one or more  $R^{12}$ ,  $C(O)R^6$ ,  $CO_2R^9$ ,  $C(O)NHR^6$  or  $SO_2NR^6R^7$ ;  $R^{12}$  is fluoro, hydroxy,  $CO_2H$ ,  $C_{3-6}$ cycloalkyl,  $NH_2$ ,  $CONH_2$ ,  $C_{1-6}$ alkoxy,  $C_{1-6}$ alkoxycarbonyl or a 5- or 6-membered heterocyclic ring containing 1, 2 or 3 heteroatoms selected from N, S and O optionally substituted independently by one or more  $R^{13}$ ; or  $R^6$  and  $R^7$ , together with the nitrogen to which they are attached, form a 4-, 5- or 6-membered heterocyclic ring optionally substituted independently by one or more  $R^{13}$ ; or a 5- or 6-membered heterocyclic ring containing 1, 2 or 3 heteroatoms selected from N, S and O, optionally substituted independently by one or more  $R^{13}$ ; wherein  $R^{13}$  is hydroxy,  $C_1-C_4$ alkoxy, fluoro,  $C_1-C_6$ alkyl, haloalkyl, haloalkoxy,  $-NH_2$ ,  $-NH(C_1-C_6$ alkyl) or  $-N(C_1-C_6$ alkyl) $_2$ .

2. (Cancelled)
3. (Previously presented) A compound according to claim 1 wherein L is -C(H)-.
4. (Original) A compound according to claim 1 wherein  $R^1$  and  $R^2$ , which may be the same or different, are hydrogen or  $C_1-C_6$ alkyl, or  $R^1$  and  $R^2$ , together with the nitrogen to which they are attached, form an azetidine ring.
5. (Original) A compound according claim 1 wherein  $R^1$  is methyl and  $R^2$  is hydrogen or methyl, or  $R^1$  and  $R^2$ , together with the nitrogen to which they are attached, form an azetidine ring.
6. (Original) A compound according to claim 1 wherein  $R^1$  is methyl and  $R^2$  is hydrogen or methyl.
7. (Original) A compound according to claim 1 wherein W is hydrogen,  $C_{1-6}$ alkyl,  $C_{1-4}$ alkoxy or halogen.
8. (Original) A compound according to claim 1 wherein W is hydrogen, methyl or ethyl; and Y and Z, which may be the same or different, are hydrogen, methyl, ethyl,  $CF_3$ ,  $OCF_3$ , methylthio, ethylthio, methoxy, ethoxy, chloro, fluoro or bromo; or Y

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and Z are linked so that, together with the interconnecting atoms, Y and Z form a fused 5 to 7-membered carbocyclic or heterocyclic ring which may be saturated, unsaturated or aromatic, and wherein when Y and Z form a heterocyclic ring, in addition to carbon atoms, the linkage contains one or two heteroatoms independently selected from oxygen, sulfur and nitrogen; wherein W, Y and Z are not all hydrogen.

9. (Original) A compound according to claim 1 wherein W is hydrogen; and Y and Z, which may be the same or different, are hydrogen, fluoro, chloro, methyl, ethyl, methylthio, ethylthio, methoxy or ethoxy; or Y and Z are linked so that, together with the interconnecting atoms, Z and Y form a fused 5 to 7-membered heterocyclic ring containing one or more sulfur atoms; wherein Y and Z are not both hydrogen.

10. (Original) A compound according to claim 1 wherein when Y and Z are linked so that, together with the interconnecting atoms, Z and Y form a fused 5 to 7-membered heterocyclic ring containing one or more sulfur atoms, the linkages forming the fused ring are  $-S(CH_2)_2-$ ,  $-CH_2S-CH_2-$  or  $-S(CH_2)_2O-$  wherein either end of these linkages correspond to either group Y or Z.

11. (Original) A compound according to claim 1 wherein, when present, each  $R^4$  is independently  $-(CH_2)_p-X$ , where p is 0, 1 or 2; X is hydrogen,  $CONR^6R^7$ ,  $SO_2NR^6R^7$ ,  $SO_2NH(C=O)R^6$ , hydroxy,  $C_{1-4}alkoxy$ ,  $NR^8SO_2R^9$ ,  $NO_2$ ,  $NR^6R^{11}$ , CN,  $CO_2R^{10}$ ,  $SR^{10}$ ,  $S(O)R^9$  or  $SO_2R^{10}$ ; wherein  $R^6$ ,  $R^7$ ,  $R^8$ ,  $R^{10}$  or  $R^{11}$ , which may be the same or different, are hydrogen or  $C_{1-6}alkyl$ ; and  $R^9$  is  $C_{1-6}alkyl$ .

12. (Original) A compound according to claim 1 wherein, when present each  $R^4$  is independently  $-(CH_2)_p-X$ , where p is 0 or 1; X is hydrogen,  $CONR^6R^7$ ,  $SO_2NR^6R^7$ ,  $NR^8SO_2R^9$ , hydroxy or  $NR^6R^{11}$ ; wherein  $R^6$ ,  $R^7$ ,  $R^8$ , or  $R^{11}$ , which may be the same or different, are hydrogen or  $C_{1-6}alkyl$ ; and  $R^9$  is  $C_{1-6}alkyl$ .

13. (Original) A compound according to claim 1 wherein the compound is selected from:

*N*-methyl-*N*-({4-[4-(methylsulfanyl)phenoxy]-3-pyridinyl}methyl)amine,  
*N*-[4-(2,3-dihydro-1-benzothien-5-yloxy)-3-pyridinyl]methyl-*N*-methylamine,  
*N*-({4-[3-chloro-4-(methylsulfanyl)phenoxy]-3-pyridinyl}methyl)-*N*-methylamine,  
*N*-methyl-*N*-({3-[4-(methylsulfanyl)phenoxy]-4-pyridinyl}methyl)amine,  
*N*-methyl-*N*-({3-[3-methyl-4-(methylsulfanyl)phenoxy]-4-pyridinyl}-methyl)amine,

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*N*-{[4-(2,3-Dihydro-1,4-benzoxathiin-7-yloxy)-6-methyl-3-pyridinyl]methyl}-*N*-methylamine,

*N*-methyl-*N*-{[6-methyl-4-[3-methyl-4-(methylsulfanyl)phenoxy]-3-pyridinyl]methyl}amine,

*N*-{[4-[3-chloro-4-(methylsulfanyl)phenoxy]-3-pyridinyl]methyl}-*N,N*-dimethylamine,

*N*-{[4-[3-fluoro-4-(methylsulfanyl)phenoxy]-3-pyridinyl]methyl}-*N,N*-dimethylamine,

*N,N*-dimethyl-*N*-{[3-[4-(methylsulfanyl)phenoxy]-4-pyridinyl]methyl}amine,

*N*-{[4-(2,3-dihydro-1-benzothien-5-yloxy)-3-pyridinyl]methyl}-*N,N*-dimethylamine,

*N*-{[4-[3-Methoxy-4-(methylsulfanyl)phenoxy]-3-pyridinyl]methyl}-*N,N*-dimethylamine,

*N,N*-dimethyl-*N*-{[4-[4-(trifluoromethyl)phenoxy]-3-pyridinyl]methyl}amine,

*N,N*-dimethyl-*N*-{[4-[4-(methylsulfanyl)phenoxy]-3-pyridinyl]methyl}amine, and

*N,N*-dimethyl-*N*-{[4-[3-methyl-4-(methylsulfanyl)phenoxy]-3-pyridinyl]methyl}amine.

14. (Currently amended) A composition comprising a compound of formula (I) of any one of claims 1, and 3-13, or pharmaceutically acceptable salts, ~~solvates or polymorphs~~ thereof, and a pharmaceutically acceptable diluent or carrier.

15. (Currently Amended) A therapeutic method of treating ~~or preventing~~ premature ejaculation comprising administering a therapeutically effective amount of a compound of formula (I) of any one of claims 1, and 3-13, or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt, ~~solvate or polymorph~~ thereof to a subject having a need of treatment or prevention of premature ejaculation.

16-18. (Cancelled)

19. (Previously presented) The compound *N*-methyl-*N*-{[3-[3-methyl-4-(methylsulfanyl)phenoxy]-4-pyridinyl]-methyl}amine or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

20. (Previously presented) The tartrate salt of the compound of claim 19.

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21. (Previously presented) The compound N-methyl-N-({3-[4-(methylsulfanyl)phenoxy]-4-pyridinyl}-methyl)amine or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.
22. (Previously presented) The tartrate salt of the compound of claim 21.